

Appl. No. 10/701,873
Amdt dated March 25, 2005
Reply to Office action of 02/08/2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 5, line 3: change "th" to "the".

Page 12, line 3: change "angl" to "angle"

Page 13, line 1: change "rel ase" to "release"

Section: Brief Description of the Drawings

Please delete entire section starting with paragraph which starts "The Drawings constitute ---"

Please add the following new section as the description of the drawings:

FIG 1 is a side view of the invention where the punch action is actuated by a lever.

FIG 2 is a perspective view of the invention as shown in FIG 1

FIG 3 shows details of another variation of the invention.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 10, which starts with "A preferred embodiment of the invention is shown in FIG 1"

Please delete the paragraph on page 11 starting with "In the view shown in FIG 1"

Please delete the paragraph starting on page 11 with " It can be noted in FIG 1"

Please delete the paragraph on page 12 starting with " The hole 185 in the lower"

Please delete the paragraph on page 12 starting with " In operation a sheet of material"

Please delete the paragraph starting on page 12 with " Once a cut has been made"

Please delete the paragraph on page 13 starting with " FIG 2 shows an external"

Please delete the paragraph on page 13 starting with " As prior art punches have been"

Please delete the paragraph starting on page 13 with " This machine 300 allows for "

Please delete the paragraph on page 14 starting with " FIG 4 shows another embodiment"

Please replace the paragraph on page 14 starting with “ As the field of paper punches” with the following amended paragraph:

As the field of paper punches has evolved, a new style of punch has been developed. This style is shown in US Patent 5,749,278. This punch uses a thumb-actuated lever to create the action of the punch. The adjustable apparatus of the preferred embodiment of the invention can be seen in FIG 1 where an externally threaded element 530 has been incorporated into a thumb actuated punch thereby forming machine 500. A matching threaded portion 535 is incorporated into the housing 550 where the threads of that portion 535 match to those of threaded element 530 and thereby form the adjustable apparatus of the invention. In use a sheet of material is placed in the slot 581 and the lever 520 pushed down to actuate the punch. The threaded element 530 is then turned either up or down to form a stop to the action of the punch and cut the desired pattern into the sheet of material. As shown in FIG 1 a hinge 570 is incorporated into machine 500 to allow for the lower portion 580 to be moved away from the housing 550. This then makes removal of the sheet of material easier. As an option the punch could be manufactured with a snap apart lower portion 580 or with that lower portion 580 fixed to the housing 550. Please add the following new paragraph immediately after the above-amended paragraph:

Once a cut has been made, it is necessary to remove or move the sheet of material for another cut. Since the sheet of material may be only partially cut, removal is difficult with the cut portions of the sheet of material caught up in the hole in the bottom of the frame 580. One solution as shown in FIG 1 is a hinge 570 that can release the lower portion 580 of the machine 500 thereby making removal of the sheet of material easy. Another embodiment would be to make the base capable of being snapped apart to ease the removal of that sheet of material. Still another option would be no hinge 570 or no ability to snap apart the machine 500. Then the user would carefully push down on the cut portion of the sheet of material and then remove it from the machine 500.

Please replace paragraph on page 15 starting with " FIG 6 show another view" with the following amended paragraph:

FIG 2 shows another view of the invention where a threaded subassembly consisting of parts 530 and 560 is added as a retrofit to a previously manufactured thumb actuated punch. The operation of the machine 500 is otherwise identical to that described above.

Please delete paragraph on page 15 starting with " FIG 7 shows another embodiment"

Please delete the first paragraph of the preliminary amendment starting with "One such other embodiment"

Please replace the second paragraph of the preliminary amendment starting with "FIG 9 shows the same" with the following amended paragraph:

FIG 3 shows a separate adapter for the lever-actuated style of punch where a suitably designed threaded assembly 900 is attached to the lever actuated punch below the lever 521 of that prior art punch. A threaded bolt 910 is threaded into the matching threaded hole 920 of the threaded assembly 900 where it provides the same type of adjustment as described above in the description associated with FIG 1 where the threaded bolt 910 replaces the threaded part 530 and the threaded assembly 900 replaces part 535.